

Message Text

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ACTION EB-06

INFO OCT-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 RSC-01 TRSE-00

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R 071532Z NOV 74

FM USMISSION OECD PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASH DC 4208

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 OECD PARIS 26426

EXCON

E.O. 11652: XGDS1

TAGS: ESTC, COCOM

SUBJECT: COCOM LIST REVIEW: IL 1754 - FLUOROCARBONS

REFS: A. STATE 243683

B. COCOM DOC. REV (74)4, FIRST ADDENDUM

C. COCOM DOC. REV (74)7, ADDENDUM

D. COCOM DOC. REV (74)8, FIRST ADDENDUM

SUMMARY: VOTING ON FRENCH AND JAPANESE PROPOSALS (REFS B & C) SIDETRACKED WITH INTRODUCTION OF US PROPOSAL (REF A). QUESTION RAISED BY FRENCH WHETHER US-PROPOSED AN ALSO APPLIES TO WIRE AND CABLE IN SUB-ITEM (C) IF THAT WIRE AND CABLE WERE COATED WITH THOSE FLUOROCARBON MATERIALS WHICH ARE INCLUDED IN THE AN WAS SECONDED BY MOST PC'S, WHO EXPRESSED OPINION THAT US PROPOSAL DID NOT GO FAR ENOUGH. AS OF NOW, ALL PC'S IN RESERVE, PENDING ANSWER TO FRENCH QUESTION. ISSUE WHETHER US AND ITALY TALKING ABOUT THE SAME FORMULATION OF DIBROMOTETRAFLUORETHANE COVERED BY SUB-ITEM (A)(6) (REF D) CAUSED ALL PC'S, INCLUDING US, TO RESERVE PENDING RESOLUTION. ACTION REQUESTED: RECONSIDERATION OF US POSITION, PARTICULARLY ON SUBITEMS (A)(6) AND (C). END SUMMARY.

1. ON 6 NOVEMBER FRENCH (REV 9(74)4), JAPANESE

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(REV (74)7), AND ITALIAN (REV (74)8) PROPOSALS WERE

DISCUSSED. FRENCH AND JAPANESE PROPOSALS WERE CONSIDERED SIMULTANEOUSLY BEING ESSENTIALLY THE SAME. ALL DELEGATIONS SUPPORTED THESE PROPOSALS. US RESERVED AND SUBMITTED REF A COUNTERPROPOSAL.

2. FRANCE FELT THAT COUNTERPROPOSAL DESERVED FAVORABLE CONSIDERATION AS IT WAS A GOOD STEP TOWARD COMPROMISE. FRENCH RECOGNIZED THAT PROTECTION OF CERTAIN TECHNOLOGY WAS AT ISSUE AS TO STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS OF THE SALE OF SUCH TECHNOLOGY. THEY WISHED TO POSE A QUESTION REGARDING WIRE AND CABLE IN SUBITEM (C). IN CONNECTION WITH THE SUBITEMS TO BE SUBJECT TO AE PROCEDURE, IT WOULD SEEM LOGICAL TO INCLUDE SOME REFERENCE TO SUBITEM (C) INSULATED OR COVERED WITH THE MATERIALS UNDER THOSE SUBITEMS; A SPECIAL NOTE MAY BE THE ANSWER. THEY FELT THAT IT WOULD BE NONSENSE TO BE ABLE TO FREELY EXPORT TUBING UNTIL A WIRE WAS PUT INSIDE AND THEN CALL THE COMBINATION EMBARGOED CABLE OR INSULATED WIRE COVERED BY SUBITEM (C). US SAID ITS AUTHORITIES WOULD STUDY THIS QUESTION. JAPAN TOOK THE VIEW THAT COUNTERPROPOSAL DID NOT GO FAR ENOUGH AND ASKED WHAT TECHNOLOGY WAS SO IMPORTANT. THEY HAD AMPLE EVIDENCE THAT USSR AND PRC HAD ADEQUATE PRODUCTION CAPABILITIES IN THESE AREAS. US ANSWERED JAPAN RE TECHNOLOGY QUESTION POINTING OUT THAT GROSS EVALUATION OF PRODUCTS COULD LEAD TO ASSUMPTION OF PRODUCTION CAPABILITIES, BUT CLOSE EVALUATION OF CHEMICAL AND PHYSICAL PROPERTIES OF SAMPLE USSR AND PRC MATERIALS REVEALED THAT SUCH MATERIALS WERE MARGINALLY RELIABLE FOR NONCIVIL USES. FURTHER, US STATED THAT MANY OF THE TECHNOLOGICAL REFINEMENTS WERE NOT AVAILABLE FROM PUBLISHED DOCUMENTS AND THESE REQUIRE CONTINUED PROTECTION. JAPANESE, SECONDED BY UK, ALSO REQUESTED SPECIFICS ON STRATEGIC APPLICATIONS FOR MATERIALS NOT SUBJECT TO US PROPOSAL.

3. DELEGATIONS GENERALLY PREFERRED JAPANESE AND FRENCH PROPOSALS AND RESERVED ON US COUNTERPROPOSAL. THEY WISHED TO HAVE THE SUBITEM (C) PROBLEM RESOLVED RE THE AEN.

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4. FINALLY, UK AND FRANCE POINTED OUT TWO ANOMALIES IN US COUNTERPROPOSAL: (1) PHRASE "REASONABLE QUANTITIES" WAS UNNECESSARY IN CONTEXT OF "BONA FIDE CIVILIAN USE;" (2) USE OF "REASONABLE QUANTITIES" WITH REGARD TO "UP TO 5 GALLONS" STIPULATION ON PCTFE LUBES.

5. ITALIAN PROPOSAL RE SUB-ITEM (A)(6): ALL PC'S EXCEPT US AGREED TO DELETION OF DIBROMOTETRAFLUORETHANE,

WITH ITALIANS, GERMANS' AND FRENCH STRESSING

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 OECD PARIS 26426

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PRINCIPLE USE IN THEIR COUNTRIES OF FIRE FIGHTING.
US COUNTERED BY CITING MILITARY END-USE PATTERN IN US.
THIS DICHOTOMY IN USE PROMPTED US TO RAISE QUESTION
OF WHETHER US AND ITALIANS, GERMANS, AND FRENCH WERE,
IN FACT, TALKING ABOUT THE SAME CHEMICAL FORMULATION OF
DIBROMOTETRAFLUOROETHANE, SINCE US TECHNICAL EXPERT,
OFF-HAND, COULD THINK OF THREE DIFFERENT CHEMICAL
STRUCTURES. A TECHNICAL DISCUSSION ENSUED BUT THE
ITALIAN DEL, HINDERED BY LACK OF A TECHNICAL EXPERT AND
NOT HAVING FULL INFORMATION, UNDERTOOK TO PROVIDE COCOM
WITH THE FORMULATION OF THE FLUOROCARBON HE WAS
ATTEMPTING TO DECONTROL. IN VIEW OF THESE DEVELOPMENTS,
USDEL RESERVED, PENDING RESOLUTION OF THE CHEMICAL PRO-
BLEM SINCE POSSIBILITY NOW EBQJTS FOR A MORE SPECIFIC
APPROACH TO THIS ISSUE.

6. COMMENT: US HAS OBTAINED PRELIMINARY INFORMATION
RE CHEMICAL FORMULATION FOR FIRE EXTINGUISHER USE FROM
FRENCH AND UK TECHNICAL EXPERTS DURING POST-DISCUSSION
BILATERALS. DYTRT WILL PURSUE THIS MATTER WHEN HE
RETURNS TO WASHINGTON. US INTEREST IN ATTEMPTING TO
RESOLVE THIS LONG-STANDING FLUOROBRENE PROBLEM (SEE
COCOM DOC. (73) DEF 1754/10, ET SEQ.) MADE POINTS WITH

ALL PCS.

7. ACTION REQUESTED: TTG SHOULD RE-EXAMINE (1) REWORD-
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ING OF US COUNTERPROPOSAL TAKING ACCOUNT OF DISCUSSIONS
(PARTICULARLY ON SUB-ITEM (C)); (2) RECONSIDER DELETION
OF SUBITEM (A)(3); AND (3) ARRIVE AT SOLUTION TO ITALIAN
SUBITEM (A)(6) PROBLEM IN LIGHT OF OVERWHELMING
EUROPEAN USE AS FIRE EXTINGUISHING AGENT.
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